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[illegible]

To Distribution

From: Paul Ferry, P. E.  
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Date: November 2, 2005

Subject: Milling Tapers

For overlay projects we typically provide a detail in plans of a milled taper for the connection at project ends and other hard interfaces such as bridge ends. The length of these connection transitions to date has been specified at 100' (30 m).

Field construction personnel have encountered problems providing a smooth transition when the 100' (30 m) taper is utilized. In an effort to correct these problems they have tried extending the taper and determined that a 200' (60 m) transition length will resolve these issues. Increasing the minimum taper length to 200' greatly enhances the field crews' ability to construct a smooth connection. Providing this additional length also helps address the situations where an overlay is placed on a project that has existing tapers from a previous overlay.

I don't foresee this change adding significant costs to projects. Milling costs on overlay projects are typically high due to the small quantities required and mobilization would not be affected.

Consequently, use the following criteria to determine taper lengths:

For overlay thicknesses  $\leq 0.35'$  (100 mm), the taper length = 200' (60 m)  
For overlay thicknesses  $> 0.35'$  (100 mm), the taper length is calculated based on 30' (10 m) of taper per 0.05' (15 mm) of plant mix thickness

With the exception of the connections at project ends, provide 30' (10 m) of full depth milling in addition to the taper length. Refer to Section 5.4.4.6 of the Road Design Manual for more information.

A detail of the taper is attached. This change is effective for any plans submitted to the checkers after December 5, 2005

If you have questions please contact me at 444-6244.

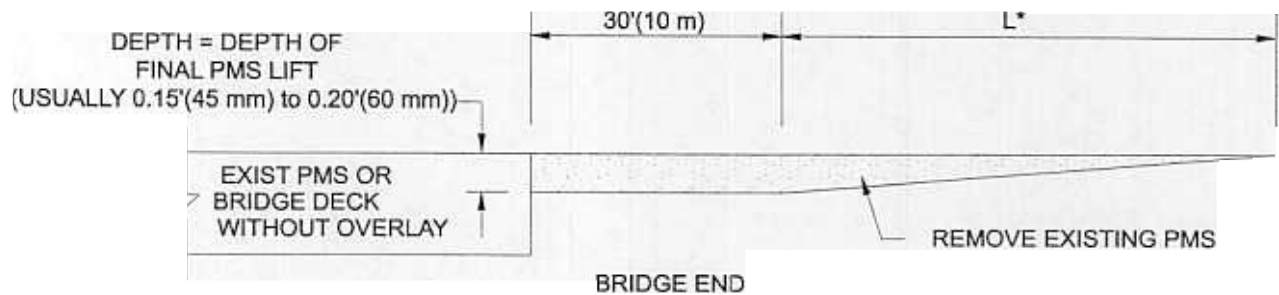
Pf.

Attachment

copies:

Paul Ferry,	Highways Engineer	w/attach
Lesly Tribelhorn	Highways Design Engineer	"
Damian Krings,	Road Design Engineer	"
Duane Williams,	Traffic Engineer	
Tom Martin,	Consultant Design Engineer	
Mark Wissinger,	Construction Engineer	
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Gary Neville,	District Engineering Services Supervisor – Billings	
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Steve Prinzing,	District Engineering Services Supervisor – Great Falls	
Jim Frank,	District Engineering Services Supervisor – Glendive	

Cold milling is used in conjunction with overlays to match the new surfacing elevations at bridge decks, cattle guards and connections to existing pavement as shown in the figure below.



\* Where the overlay thickness is  $\leq 0.35'$  (100 mm),  $L = 200'$  (60 m), Where  $L$  is  $>0.35'$  (100 mm), calculate  $L$  based on 30' (10 m) of taper per 0.05' (15 mm) of plant mix thickness. The 30' (10 m) of full-depth milling is not used for the connections at project ends.

Example: For a 0.50' (150 mm) overlay,  $L = \frac{(0.50) (30)}{0.05} = 300'$